

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Masaaki Ojima Confirmation No.:
Serial No. : 10/647,996
Filed : August 26, 2003
TC/A.U. :
Examiner :

Docket No. : 03-560
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the documents listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed.

- (1) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 8-25501 (published on January 30, 1996). The document is in Japanese however an English abstract is attached hereto.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

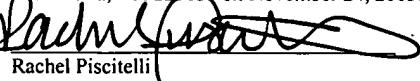
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Date: November 24, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on November 24, 2003.


Rachel Piscitelli

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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NOV 26 2003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known	
Sheet	1	of	1
		Application Number	10/647,996
		Filing Date	August 26, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Masaaki Ojima
		Group Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
		Attorney Docket Number	03-560

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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